An act relating to historical preservation programs; creating s. 267.0724, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to partner with the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network for a specified purpose; specifying preservation efforts that may be undertaken through the partnership; requiring the network to submit a list of member museums to the department; requiring the department to independently verify that such museums are members of the network; requiring the department and the network to determine other eligible expenditures necessary to further the partnership’s mission and goals; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 267.0724, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

267.0724 Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network.— Subject to the appropriation of funds by the Legislature, the Department of State shall, in accordance with s. 267.071, partner with the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network to preserve the history, culture, and contributions of Florida’s black and African-American residents. Such preservation efforts must include, but are not limited to, providing funding to support member museums and affiliates and institutions served; supporting galleries and archives; providing funding in the areas of technology, equipment acquisition, content and exhibit development, fabrication, and installation; preserving documents and artifacts; providing professional and resource development services, including conducting conferences and workshops; and providing funding for training and technical assistance. The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network shall submit a list of member museums to the department, and the department shall independently verify that such museums are members of the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network. The department and the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network shall determine other eligible expenditures related to the partnership’s stated mission and goals, which may include providing funding for an internship, field training sessions, virtual communication methods to maintain connectivity among the museums, traveling exhibits, and living history presentations.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor April 11, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 11, 2024.